

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Atty. Dkt.: 972-85

Date: August 30, 2001

Sir  
TO:

Attached for filing is the patent application of:

Inventor: TANIGUCHI

Title: PROJECTION EXPOSURE APPARATUS AND METHOD

and including attachments as noted below:

Newly executed Declaration,  Copy of Declaration from prior application,  Abstract  
 0 pages of specification and claims (including 31 numbered claims), and  
 7 sheets of accompanying drawing/s.

Record the attached assignment and return to the undersigned.

Attached is a Power of Attorney.

Priority is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119 based on the following foreign applications:

Application Number	Country	Day/Month/Year Filed
08-159718	Japan	20 June 1996
08-239714	Japan	22 August 1996

, respectively, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application..

Certified copy(ies) of foreign application(s) is/are attached.

Certified copy(ies) filed on June 9, 1997 in prior appln. no. 08/871,881 filed June 9, 1997

Please amend the specification by inserting the following paragraph before the first line: --This application claims the benefit of Provisional Application No. , filed , the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.--

This application is a  continuation/ division/ continuation-in-part of Application No. 09/263,803, filed March 8, 1999, pending, which is a continuation of Application No. 08/871,881, filed June 9, 1997, abandoned, the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference in this application.

Petition filed in prior application to extend its life to insure co-pendency.

The prior application is assigned to Nikon Corporation.

It is hereby requested that the Examiner consider the art cited in the parent and grandparent applications by applicant and/or the Examiner for the reasons stated therein. A listing of that art is attached.

Applicant claims "small entity" status.  "Small entity" statement attached.

Please enter the attached and/or below preliminary amendment prior to calculation of filing fee:

Also attached:  Information Disclosure Statement with Form PTO-1449;  Non-Publication Request;  Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission;  Statement deleting Inventor(s) named in prior application;  Other: Submission of Formal Drawings and 7 Sheets of Drawings

FILING FEE IS BASED ON CLAIMS AS FILED LESS ANY HEREWITH CANCELED

Basic Filing Fee	\$	710.00
Total effective claims 21 - 20 (at least 20) = 1 x \$ 18.00	\$	18.00
Independent claims 3 - 3 (at least 3) = 0 x \$ 80.00	\$	0.00
If any proper multiple dependent claims now added for first time, add \$270.00 (ignore improper)	\$	0.00
	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	\$ 728.00
If "small entity," then enter half (1/2) of subtotal and subtract		-\$( 0.00)
Assignment Recording Fee (\$40.00)		\$ 728.00
	<b>SECOND SUBTOTAL</b>	\$ 728.00
	<b>TOTAL FEE ENCLOSED</b>	\$ 728.00

Any future submission requiring an extension of time is hereby stated to include a petition for such time extension.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our **Account No. 14-1140**. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

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NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.  
By Atty: Alan M. Kagen, Reg. No. 36,178

Signature: Alan M. Kagen

J1050 U.S. PTO  
J109/941668  
08/30/01